

Falcon Focus

A Falcon District Neighborhood Watch Newsletter from the Crime Prevention Unit of the Mesa Police Department

Volume 2, Issue 3

Chief Jan Strauss

November 2002



G.A.I.N. KICK-OFF 2002

The GAIN 2002 Kick-Off was held September 26th, at E.V.I.T. In years past, the Kick-Off was viewed more as a "Neighborhood Watch Captain's appreciation night" since the giveaways and materials were more for the captain who attended the event. This year our focus was on the neighborhood and its residents.

The Crime Prevention Unit developed the idea to have a drawing and let captains attending the kick-off event enter to win a "Party in a Box". Our unit supplied games, decorations and some food for 21 parties for use on GAIN night 2002. There was one party for 100 people. Some of the party themes are:

Winter Wonderland ♦ Country Western ♦ 70's
Mardi Gras ♦ Halloween ♦ Patriotic ♦ Carnival ♦ Sports ♦
Safari ♦ Luau

In addition to the above party packages, some door prizes were organized into groups of 40 items like stadium cups and memo boards. These items were provided for use by the captain at the GAIN event on October 26th.

At this year's GAIN kick-off event, a video was shown to help promote new ideas and show you a variety of GAIN parties you could have. Following the video was a live comic performance featuring Officer Jim Heckel and Officer Vicki Hixson. Both of these officers used their talents to interact with the audience and draw attention to having a themed GAIN event. The show was very entertaining and informative.

There were city departments present to provide information and resources to assist in your Neighborhood Watch needs. I would like to thank the Mesa City Council, Neighborhood Outreach, Animal Control, Bikes, Community Action Teams, Silent Witness; Arizona Automobile Theft Authority, Parks rangers, Fire

Department, Transportation, Volunteers, MCPAWS, Auto Theft, Solid Waste, Explorers and members of the Crime Prevention unit. I would also like to thank Arizona Public Service for their part in the event and E.V.I.T. (East Valley Institute of Technology) for providing a tasty assortment of appetizers and deserts.

G.A.I.N. KICK-OFF STATS:

361 total people RSVP'd
261 actually attended

District Attendance:

Central – 48
Dobson – 24
Falcon – 82
Super – 107

Out of 15 apartment complexes that RSVP'd, 9 were present.

GAIN STATS:

A total of 74 Falcon Neighborhood Watch groups registered to have an event on October 26th.

Congratulations to the Falcon District winners of a Gain "Party in a Box".

70's Party	Linda McDonough
70's Party	Linda Brenchley
Western Party	Roseanne Mitchell
Halloween Party	Sandi Patt
Halloween Party	Art Seiter
Mardi Gras Party	David Buruato
Patriotic Party	Jeanne Dial
Carnival Party	Debbie Garcia
Carnival Party	Michelle Green

Mesa's Most Wanted

The purpose of this web page is to identify for you, members of our community and the public, several "Most Wanted" persons each month that were last seen in the Mesa area. We need your help in identifying the location of these wanted people. Your assistance can lead to the apprehension of a known and active felon. You may be able to receive an award for your assistance, and you can remain anonymous. Either way, we need your help to get these criminals off the street.

www.ci.mesa.az.us/police/warrants/default.htm

New Neighborhood Watch Groups

800 - 1000 S. Spur	Matt Backus Carmen & Tony Vasquez
1400 – 1500 E. Flossmoor	Jason Christensen Gwendolyn & Stefan Smith
2500 – 2600 E. Boise	Donna & Rich Kempf Sandy & Jill Patt
1700 E. Minton	Linda & Paul Brenchley
3000 – 3100 E. Hale	Gary & Bettina Karapetian George & Lynn Robbins
1400 – 1500 E. Emelita	Ken Cook Reena Nichols Stephanie & Anthony Wood
1700 E. Isabella	Steve & Angie Young Dave & Tricia Gardiner Dan & Loree Rapp
4300 E. Fountain	Janet & Gene Ericson Brandon Meisner Dennis Ruright

I want to thank each and every one of these Block Captains for all the time and effort they have put into the starting of a Neighborhood Watch in their area. It takes sincere dedication and strong commitment to challenge your neighborhood and community in the fight against crime. Keep up the good work.

BE ALERT



The Mesa Police Department Crime Prevention Unit recently developed a child safety education program called "Be Alert". The program will provide free safety and prevention information to children and parents in the City of Mesa.

The "Be Alert" program covers a variety of topics including child abduction and helmet safety, 911 education, and truthfulness, making good decisions, team building and self-esteem. The program is effective because the information is presented to the children at their level, the messages are short and to the point, and the messages are repeated numerous times throughout the presentation. Magic, puppets and props are used in a simple yet effective method of teaching the importance of safety and well-being. The lessons are designed to heighten awareness of the issues, teach strategies to avoid harm and reinforce what has been learned in a fun, interactive and creative way.

The age group appropriate for this program is kindergarten through the fourth grade (ages 5 -11). A minimum number of children (no less than 20) makes the program more effective and is required to make the activities interactive.

The following dates are still available
BY
RESERVATION
ONLY

November 19th 6:00-7:30 pm
Mesa Police Central Community Room

December 18th 6:00-7:30 pm
Dobson Library

Please contact Crime Prevention Specialist Jerry Quarles at: **480-644-2539** for more information about the program and to **Reserve** your seats. (Space is limited)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MESA'S MERRY MAIN STREET

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6TH 5 - 9:30 P.M.

DOWNTOWN MESA ON MAIN STREET

ANNUAL COMMUNITY HOLIDAY CELEBRATION, INCLUDING DOWNTOWN LIGHT DISPLAY, MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT, KIDS ACTIVITIES, FOOD AND CRAFTS, A VISIT FROM SANTA, AND SNOW.

BLOCK LEADERS MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21ST 7:00 - 9:00 P.M.

MESA POLICE TRAINING FACILITY 3260 N. 40TH STREET

IDEAS AND ACTIVITIES WILL BE PROVIDED TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATION IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH USING TEAM BUILDING SKILLS AND MAGIC TRICKS.

HOLIDAY SAFETY

- Do not leave presents in plain view near window or doorways.
- Do no advertise to burglars by leaving empty boxes extending out of trashcans. Break boxes down.
- When shopping, use the trunk to store packages out of sight.
- Avoid carrying a purse when shopping and only take credit cards you will need.
- Don't flash large amounts of money in public.
- Use ATM's during the day or a well lighted one at night.

Child Safety Information

You can find Instructions for Obtaining a DNA Sample Using Oral Swabs at:

www.ci.mesa.az.us/police/childsafety.htm

This procedure allows for the collection of DNA from a known sample to be dried and stored should the need arise in the future to compare the sample.

PHONE NUMBERS YOU MAY NEED...

Traffic Unit.....	644-3533
(Motor Officers)	
Falcon Substation.....	644-2598
(Speed Radar Trailer)	
Pace Car Program.....	644-5004
Radar Gun Checkout.....	644-2160
Street Barricades.....	644-2160
Clean Sweep.....	644-4423
Fire Prevention.....	644-2200

Hotlines

Gang Hotline (644-GANG)	(480) 644-4264
Narcotics Hotline.....	(602) 440-5081
Stolen Vehicle/Chop Shop Hotline.....	(480) 644-2880
Street Light Hotline.....	(480) 644-3191
Fraud Alert Hotline.....	(480) 644-2345

Watch Your Car Program Registration
1-888-668-4433

R.A.D. RAPE AGGRESSION DEFENSE

Due to the demand in requests for self-defense courses for women, the Mesa Police Department Crime Prevention Unit has partnered with Mesa Parks and Recreation to offer R.A.D. classes. The program is designed for women and girls over 16; however, minors under 18 must be accompanied by a female parent or guardian.

R.A.D. combines awareness, prevention, risk reduction and avoidance strategies for woman's safety that bridge the gap between traditional crime prevention lectures and basic martial art courses. The R.A.D. course objective is to develop and enhance the options of self-defense, so they may become more viable considerations to the woman who is attacked.

The classes will meet 2 nights for 4 1/2 hours each night, a total of 9 combined hours of classroom and physical instruction. The Parks and Recreation "Time Out" will carry the schedule and Parks And Recreation will charge a fee for the training. For more information contact the following Crime Prevention Specialists:

Terri Teten	480-644-3692
Lindy Marino	480-644-3921
Holly Hosac	480-644-2033



*Happy
Holidays*

Reminder

The Neighborhood Watch program requires 2 activities or events between January 1st and December 31st each year to be an **Active** watch group. If this requirement is not met, the Neighborhood Watch sign removal process begins. You may contact me to check the status of your meetings to ensure our office has received all of the attendance sheets and you have met the annual requirements. If the Neighborhood Watch signs are removed, there is a one-year waiting period to have them reinstalled if you restart the program.

Mesa Neighborhood Watch Stats

Total Mesa Neighborhood Watches	718
Falcon District	216
Superstition District	279
Dobson District	104
Central District	119
Total Captains & Assistants	1,341
Falcon Captains & Assistants	373

Crime Prevention Specialist Jerry Quarles, CPS

Falcon District Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

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Mesa City Home Page:

www.ci.mesa.az.us